

## Disproportionality Initiatives in Indiana

- **INDIANA DISPROPORTIONALITY COMMITTEE**
- Full-time *Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator* at Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
- State of Our Black Youth Report (SOBY) by Indiana Black Expo (IBE)
- Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) - Marion County
- IARCCA's Outcome Measures Project
- Disproportionality added to curriculum at IU School of Social Work.
- IU Center for Education and Evaluation Policy (IUCEEP)
- Children and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) - Mental Health Statewide Assessment Initiative
- Indiana Civil Rights Commission Cultural Responsive PBIS program

### How YOU can be involved..

- Join the IDC and contribute to one of the 5 sub-committees.
- Host a discussion group for your staff and/or members of your community.
- Disseminate information to your organization and/or other community stakeholders.



For more information about Disproportionality in Indiana, or for a copy of the IDC 2006 Annual Report, contact:

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<http://www.in.gov/cji/youth/>

## Who is the Indiana Disproportionality Committee??

### WE ARE:

The IDC is a coalition of public and private human service organizations, as well as individual community members, who are committed to understanding and eliminating the overrepresentation of minority youth.

### OUR VISION

Children of ALL races and ethnicities being equitably served by Indiana's human service systems.

### OUR MISSION

Create equality within Indiana systems and equalize the proportion of children of color in human service systems with their percentage of the overall population.

## IDC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Community presentations throughout the State.
- Focus groups with more than 110 participants.
- 61 active members and 41 part-time members.
- Developed an informative website.
- Collected extensive resources (Annotated Bibliography, Glossary of Terms, Fast Facts)
- Worked with Indiana General Assembly to create legislation to establish a formal State Disproportionality Commission.
- Two Grant Submissions (OJJDP and ICJI)
- Attended and served as panelists at National Conferences.



Check us out on the web:  
<http://www.in.gov/cji/youth/>



## Disproportionality of Minority Youth in..

### Child Welfare



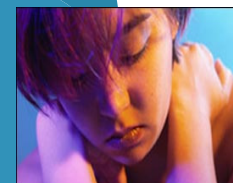
### Education



### Juvenile Justice



### Mental Health



## CHILD WELFARE

- Indiana is one of 16 states with *extreme* disproportionality of Black children in child welfare.
- In 2005, the State's child population was 86% White, 8% Black — however, 28% of the out-of-home/foster care population was Black.
- Black youth who are free for adoption but lingering in foster care are also disproportionately represented both nationally and in Indiana. While only 8% of the State child population, Black youth make up 37% of those waiting to be adopted.
- Across the country, overrepresentation exists at every point in child welfare - from reports and investigations to termination of parental rights.

*Studies in the U.S. have shown that Black children are no more likely to be abused or neglected - however, they are much more likely to be placed in out-of-home care while White children receive services in their own homes.*

## MENTAL HEALTH

- National studies have proven that Black youth, ages 13-17, are more likely to be referred to mental health facilities than White adolescents the same age.
- In the U.S. minority youth are underserved compared to White youths by services such as counseling and psychotherapy.
- Researchers have found a direct correlation between the number of children of color underserved by the mental health system and the number entering the juvenile justice system.

*National experts believe that the cause of disparity among races in mental health is due to cultural differences in seeking help, accessibility of services, and the lack of minority health care providers.*

## What is Disproportionality?

**Disproportionality is the situation where a racial or ethnic group is represented within a human service system (i.e. child welfare, juvenile justice, etc.) at a rate that is not proportionate to their representation in the general population. This can lead to either *over-representation* or *under-representation*.**



## Why does Disproportionality need to be addressed?

**Children depend on us - the adults who care for them. As professionals serving youth, we each have a responsibility to ensure that ALL children are being treated equally, regardless of race.**

## EDUCATION

- Nationally and in Indiana, Black male students receive disciplinary action more often than students of any other race or gender. They are also 3 times more likely to be held back than White male students.
- National statistics show that Black students with disabilities are more likely to receive office referrals, corporal punishment, or out-of-school suspensions than other students with disabilities.
- In Indiana, Black children are 4 times more likely and Hispanic children are 2 times more likely to receive out-of-school suspensions than Whites.

*There is no evidence that Black children misbehave or are more disruptive than other students in the school setting.*

## JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Across the U.S., Black youth are detained more often than other races in every offense category - person, property, drug, and public order.
- While only representing 10% of Indiana's child population, Black youth made up 33% of those detained by the Department of Correction in 2005.
- Studies show that in the U.S., Black youth are incarcerated 5 times more often than Whites for equal offenses, while White youth are more likely to be placed on probation.
- Nationally, Black youth are referred to juvenile court at twice the rate of Whites.

*In the U.S., Black youth are confined 61 days longer and Latino youth are confined 112 days longer than White youth.*